



WILSON GETS ALLIES' VIEWS ON GERMAN NOTE; PRINCE MAX PREPARES NATION FOR "DEFENSE CALL"

BRIEULLES IS CAPTURED BY YANK TROOPS

Germans are Forced to Evacuate Strong Positions in Hills Northwest of Verdun.

BY BERT FORD. International News Service. WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY NORTHWEST OF VERDUN, Oct. 23 (Noon.)—American patrols entered Brioules late yesterday and reported that the Germans had burned and evacuated the town.

(Brioules is on the Meuse river 14 miles northwest of Verdun.)

The Germans have been forced to evacuate Hill No. 281, an important stronghold. Brioules is being heavily shelled by boche artillery.

The Germans have thrown in two more divisions (24,000 men) against the Americans in the Meuse river district, where they have employed 40 divisions since the American drive began on Sept. 26.

The enemy's defense systems converge opposite the Americans, which means a series of closely knitted strongholds making a pivot for the whole western front.

If the Yankees simply hold this pivot where the enemy has massed the cream of his troops they would be doing their bit, but they have done even more by steadily nibbling into the Gibraltar of defenses and inflicting serious losses upon the enemy.

Our line has been carried from Martinvaux trench systems along the eastern edge of the Bois de Feret, passing the northern trip of Bois de Berrier and La Cote de Feret, within a half kilometer of Brioules.

(A kilometer is six-tenths of one mile.) German troops are being massed in the regions of Bastille and Aneville road, using machine guns chiefly against the Americans. Numerous rifle grenades were used today.

FRENCH TROOPS MAKE ADVANCE. International News Service. PARIS, Oct. 23 (Noon.)—French troops standing on the Barres river have advanced between Nizy le Comte and Le Thour, the war office announced today.

The French gained ground between Nizy le Comte and Le Thour. So far this month the first army has taken 81 cannon, 100 trench mortars and over 700 machine guns. Much material was captured also.

Prisoners were captured between Nizy le Comte and Le Thour. "Elsewhere the night was calm."

QUIT TALKING, FIGHT, SAYS VON HINDENBURG TO GERMAN SOLDIERS

International News Service. ZURICH, Oct. 23.—"Soldiers talk too much; an armistice is still far off," said Field Marshal Hindenburg, the German chief of staff, in an order of the day to the German army. It continued: "You are still the rampart of the fatherland on enemy soil and in Alsace-Lorraine."

Yankee Aviators Down 14 Enemy Planes Tuesday

American Flyers Take Part in 36 Sky Battles in One Day.

BY BERT FORD. International News Service. WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY NORTHWEST OF VERDUN (noon), Oct. 23.—Fourteen German aeroplanes and one observation balloon were shot down by American fliers on Tuesday. Yankee airmen took part in 36 sky battles.

GET REPLIES FROM FOUR CANDIDATES ON DRY QUESTION

Committee on Inquiry Gives Result of Recent Canvass On Prohibition.

Inquiries sent to each of the candidates for election to the state legislature as to their attitude on the question of prohibition, both as it applies to Indiana and the nation, have elicited four replies. It was announced Wednesday by the committee on inquiry four other candidates have not yet replied, although the committee has the registered letter receipt showing that they have received the inquiry and the date set for the replies has passed.

The committee was appointed following a recent meeting at the Y. M. C. A. and is composed of republicans, democrats and independents regardless of their personal attitude on the liquor question, the committee.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10.)

MOST AMERICANS SLIGHTLY HURT

Eighty Percent of Wounded Will Be Back in Lines Within a Month.

BY BERT FORD. International News Service. WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY NORTHWEST OF VERDUN (night), Oct. 23.—During a German air raid early today huge bombs fell near an American hospital far behind the lines and fragments of the bursting projectiles penetrated the building. The wounded were hastily removed to dugouts.

German flyers also bombed a city full of civilians in the rear of the American front and a number of non-combatants were wounded.

Eighty percent of the American wounded in the present offensive were only slightly injured with rifle and machine gun bullets and a large number of them will be able to return to the firing line within a month. Some will be back in two weeks. The Germans were more heavily wounded than the Americans, owing to the severity of our artillery fire.

An American infantry captain who lay seriously wounded in No Man's land for five days without food or drink and was supposed by the Germans to be dead, was rescued in a shell hole today by an American platoon, which other Yankee units, captured Ravin Aux-Pierres.

The American officer was rushed to a hospital where it was said he has a good chance for recovery. His name was not made known.

NAVY TO ADD 200,000 MEN DURING YEAR

Sec'y Daniels Says Large Increase in Personnel is Needed to Operate Merchant Ships.

International News Service. WASHINGTON, Oct. 23.—Sec'y of the Navy Daniels told the house naval affairs committee this afternoon that 200,000 officers and men will be added to the enlisted personnel of the navy during the next year to operate new naval and merchant ships to be finished during the next 12 months. The total naval personnel when the additional men have been taken into the service will be more than 700,000.

The enlarged personnel will be needed principally for the manning of new merchant ships, Sec'y Daniels said. The shipping board at present is furnishing men for operating only coastwise vessels, leaving the trans-Atlantic ships to be manned by the navy.

Navy Men in Training. The navy can draw sufficient men to operate naval vessels from the 150,000 men now in training at Hampton Roads, the Great Lakes naval training station, and at Newport, Sec'y Daniels said.

Referring to the \$600,000,000 building program he will ask congress to authorize in December, Sec'y Daniels said that the navy plans are going ahead without regard to the German efforts to secure an early peace or the fact that a league of nations will take over a large part of the navy's work after the war.

Favors Government Ownership. Any scheme worked out for preserving the peace after the war will not lessen the need for the protection of this country's coast and the protection of the vast fleet of merchant ships now being constructed, he said.

The secretary hinted that he would favor continued government operation of merchant ships after the war and would not endorse any plan looking to their being given over to private ownership.

Carrying out a previous recommendation by the senate, the committee this afternoon decided favorably to report bills for building a 524 acre tract at Hampton Roads and additional land at Annapolis, which will permit the development of these stations as the greatest of their kind in the world.

The land to be purchased is at present leased by the government.

TEN BIG DREADNAUGHTS ON NEW NAVAL PROGRAM

International News Service. WASHINGTON, Oct. 23.—Congressional leaders said today that they did not expect any real opposition to the new naval expansion program put forth by Sec'y Daniels last night. It calls for the construction of 10 additional super-dreadnaughts, six battle cruisers and 140 smaller vessels at a total cost of \$500,000,000. This is in addition to the 126 vessels authorized under the first three-year program commenced in 1916 and the large number of destroyers now being built under an emergency program.

A great part of the 1918 program, so far as it affected major battle craft, was postponed, but it has been arranged that a start will be made on every large ship of the 1918 program not later than July 1 next.

DEATHS IN CHICAGO DUE TO EPIDEMIC REACH 343 IN DAY

International News Service. CHICAGO, Oct. 23.—Deaths reported in Chicago yesterday due to influenza and pneumonia totaled 343, while the total number of deaths reported from all causes numbered 479, as against the normal daily death rate of 100.

Every effort to narrow the field of the epidemic is being made. Acting Chief of Police Alcock yesterday stopped several church funerals which had been planned. Hospitals have been notified that to refuse admittance to influenza and pneumonia cases will result in cancellation of their license.

Spaniards Want Notes to Germany Made Public

Liberals Hotly Criticizing Secrecy of Government in Negotiations.

International News Service. MADRID, Oct. 23.—Replying to criticisms of the recent negotiations regarding losses of Spanish ships through German U-boats, Premier Maura declared in the chamber today that Spain has a firm determination to have all torpedoed Spanish ships replaced, leaving Germany the privilege only of designating which of their interned vessels will be turned over to Spain.

The liberals are hotly criticizing the secrecy with which the negotiations have been conducted and are demanding the publication of the full text of all notes exchanged.

GERMANS RETIRE NEAR BRUSSELS

Huns Reported to be Stripping City of All Useful Materials.

BY JOHN T. PARKERSON. International News Service. WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY ON THE WESTERN BATTLE FRONT (night), Oct. 23.—The Germans are planning a retirement of 30 kilometers (18 1/2 miles) in the Brussels region and are reported to have begun stripping the city of all useful materials, according to information received today. A continuous line of transports has been seen moving in the direction of Namur. Roads and bridges far east of Tournai have been mined. Trees were felled and towns cleaned of their valuables. Light railway lines have been removed and the main line roads are covered with trains. All useful machinery was removed by the Germans from Lille and other manufacturing cities.

Even the churches were mined by the Germans in Pecq and Maroing.

All war materials and hospitals in Brussels are being moved back to Germany.

DRAFT BOARDS IN 19 STATES SLOW

No Progress Marked for Them in Classification Speed Campaign.

International News Service. WASHINGTON, Oct. 23.—The state master chart in the office of the provost marshal general, on which is recorded the daily progress of states entirely completing the various stages of classification and physical examination of draft registrants of Sept. 12, between the ages of 19 and 36, today showed 19 states with no progress at all entered.

The states which have not reached the 50 percent point in the "speed up" contest started Oct. 1, which entitled them to credit on the state master chart, are: Alabama, Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia. The District of Columbia is also included in this list.

Utah, Iowa, Wisconsin and Indiana are credited on the state master chart in the order named, with having completed 50 percent of classification and sent their records of classification to district boards, while Oklahoma, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Nevada and Rhode Island have completed in all their local boards 50 percent of classification but have not reported forward the proper records to district boards.

PRES'T WILSON IS CONFERRING WITH ENTENTE

Gets Official Text of German Note But Will Await Views of Allies Before Replying.

BY JOHN EDWIN NEVIN. International News Service. WASHINGTON, Oct. 23.—Pres't Wilson's action on the latest German peace note will have the approval of the entente powers before it is made public. With the official text of the German peace appeal in his hands the president took steps to consult the British, French and Italian premiers.

Communication between Washington and the allied capitals now is in progress and until the views of all are available there will be no information officially from either the white house or the state department as to Pres't Wilson's opinion.

Official Copy. The official copy of the note was delivered to Sec'y of State Lansing by Frederick Oederlin, the Swiss charge d'affaires, just before 10 o'clock. A copy was at once sent to the white house. Then the official text was turned over to the state department translators to compare it with the unofficial note sent out from the German station at Nauern, Germany, which has been in the hands of this government since Saturday.

Sec'y of State Lansing again conferred with Pres't Wilson at noon today. The secretary had with him when he reached the white house the copy of the official note on which his translators had indicated all differences between the original and the wireless text. Soon after the secretary reached the white house, Gen. March, chief of staff and Sec'y Daniels were sent for.

No Material Differences. Officials stated that the examination of the cabled text of the German note did not differ materially from the wireless copies. However, it was explained that the comparisons would take some time.

Because this government was known to be in communication with the entente premiers, officials were somewhat doubtful that there would be any official announcement regarding policy today. Incidentally, there were a great many officials here who did not believe that the president would make any direct reply to Germany at the present time. They argued that in his original reply to the kaiser's government, the president had announced a decision.

It is admitted officially that there is nothing in the latest German communication that in any way affects that decision, or would call for any change in it. In consequence, these officials say, that really is no reason for the president's addressing any further communication to Berlin.

No Official Word. These officials believe, however, that if the president does not address Berlin he will issue a statement to the American people setting forth his views on the latest peace maneuver and possibly set off some dramatic that will blast German selfishness from its present control in Germany. However, this is known to be conjecture, as not a single word has come directly from either the president or Sec'y Lansing that throws light on their position.

Austria to Try Again. Diplomatic advisers reaching here today say that Austria can be depended on to make another serious effort to reopen peace negotiations with the United States. The emperor has been in conference with Baron Burian and Count Hussarez, the advisers say, and there is every indication that another note is in process of preparation. Meanwhile the internal situation in Austria is hourly becoming more complicated.

The mayor of Vienna called a conference of the municipal council to determine some measure that would have the inhabitants from starvation. The Czechs have refused to send any food there while Germany has held up all cereal shipments on the ground that petrol and coal shipments have been held up. The Hungarians authorities also have stopped shipping corn and food for the army and this has resulted in the army suffering seriously. All

CHANCELLOR'S SPEECH FAILS TO CLEAR UP ANY VITAL QUESTIONS

International News Service. COPENHAGEN, Oct. 23.—Chancellor Max's peace speech before the German reichstag in Berlin yesterday did not cause much of a sensation, said a dispatch from that city today.

The address was lengthy and academic in tone, but it failed to clear up questions that are now absorbing the whole attention of the German people.

"Pres't Wilson's first answer to the peace move of the German government has brought to the highest point in all countries the question of a 'peace of justice' or a 'peace of violence,'" said the chancellor.

The chancellor continued: "Until then we are prepared for both eventualities. Should the enemy be anxious for war there is no doubt that the government, in the name of the people, will issue a call for national defense."

APPEALS FOR SUPPORT FOR ARMY. The chancellor closed his speech with an appeal "for the support of the brave men who are fighting on the German frontiers against superior numbers and whom we must defend against unjust charges."

Prince Max said that the German people should not be blindly brought into peace conference. "Clearness is needed," he went on. "Many quarters have represented to me that acceptance of the conditions means submission to an anti-German court of justice.

"The essence of Pres't Wilson's program for a league of nations cannot be brought about unless all peoples have the right of self-determination."

POINTS OUT INTERNAL REFORMS. The chancellor detailed the internal reforms, including director representation, the appointment of an Alsatian governor for Alsace-Lorraine, the appointment of parliamentary ministers and the granting of power to the reichstag to declare peace or war.

These, said the chancellor, were the aims of himself and his colleagues in political authority

Here Are Views on Peace as Seen by Entente Statesmen

International News Service. LONDON, Oct. 23.—"Under no circumstances should Germany's former colonies be returned to her," declared Foreign Sec'y A. J. Balfour, at a luncheon given in honor of Australians here today.

"The end of the conflict is not yet in sight," continued the foreign secretary. "It is not right to suppose that the enemy is crumbling to pieces, but we have entered a phase that insures us we shall enjoy the fruits of victory."

ITALIANS OPPOSE ARMISTICE PLEA. ROME, Oct. 23.—The Italian government is opposed to Germany's request for an armistice based upon relative strength of opposing armies. Such a step, it is pointed out, would neglect other vital elements in the situation and give Germany time to reorganize her armies and escape. As the situation stands now it is compelling Germany toward peace.

MUST CONVINC GERMAN SHE'S BEATEN. LONDON, Oct. 23.—The only way to stop the present war, in the opinion of Paul Painleve, former French premier, is to convince Germany, from the highest to the lowest person, that she is irretrievably defeated.

The former premier cites the German government press statements which were made public in July and which advocated the dismantling of France and Belgium as "indicative of the sincerity of the German peace proposals."

"Is the same reichstag which tamely submitted to the sacrifice of Chancellor von Kuehlmann now to be regarded as representative of the German people?" asks M. Painleve. "The old orders and ideas of Germany have collapsed because the military front collapsed. The German people submit readily to the rule of militarism. The only way the war can be stopped is to convince Germany, from the highest to the lowest person, that she is irretrievably defeated."

TRY TO DECEIVE PEOPLE. The German officials plainly are trying to deceive the people, especially the troops at the front as to their attitude. The German government continues to insist that the latest note in every respect is a sincere appeal for peace. The various leaders are doing their best to work up a sentiment in favor of the kaiser on the ground that he is sincerely trying to end the war. But so far as can be told from the advices that are reaching here, this action has failed to get results. The workers are war-weary and openly blame their rulers. The merchant class in Germany, while openly urging unity of purpose, plainly realize that the conflict is lost and that the terms of peace will be the same today as they would be after the army is crushed. And they favor material concessions in the hope of preventing any invasion of German territory or a general bombing of German cities and towns, such as the German airmen have inflicted on France, Belgium and England.

3,000 TONS OF COAL SUNK. AN ATLANTIC PORT, Oct. 23.—An American transport rammed and sank a bark loaded with 3,000 tons of coal here today. Four men aboard the barge were rescued by a tug. The transport was not damaged.

BRITISH LAUNCH NEW ASSAULT NEAR CAMBRAI

Good Progress Reported in Attacks Between Le Cateau and Solesmes—for Approaching Namur.

International News Service. LONDON, Oct. 23.—The Germans have begun to evacuate the Brussels line on the Eindhoven battle front, said a dispatch to the Sketch today.

Long lines of German transports were seen moving in the direction of Namur.

Namur is a fortress in Belgium 21 miles southwest of Brussels. It was surrounded by 40 fortifications but they were quickly reduced by the German 42 centimetre guns when the Germans invaded Belgium in 1914. It is understood they have since been rebuilt.

BRITISH LAUNCH NEW ASSAULT. LONDON, Oct. 23.—A new assault was begun by the British early today on the front east and southeast of Cambrai and good progress was made. The war office announced. The attack centered between Le Cateau and Solesmes.

(Solesmes is 11 1/2 miles east of Cambrai and Le Cateau is 5 1/2 miles south of Solesmes.)

The British have reached the western bank of the Scheldt river between Valenciennes and Tournai at two points, but considerable resistance was encountered.

Official Statement. The text of the war office report reads: "At an early hour this morning we attacked on the Le Cateau-Solesmes front and are reported to be making good progress."

"Farther north, between Valenciennes and Tournai we have taken Bruay.

"British forces reached the west bank of the Scheldt at Blegny and Espinay.

"Considerable resistance was encountered on this front yesterday and sharp fighting took place in which our troops crossed the enemy back vigorously and inflicted many casualties.

"We drove the enemy from his positions and captured a number of prisoners."

SERBIANS ARE SIX MILES FROM DANUBE. International News Service. LONDON, Oct. 23.—Serbian troops advancing northward through Serbia are now only six miles from the Danube river said advices to the Serbian legation today. (The French had previously reached the Danube at Vidin, in Bulgaria.)

Three thousand prisoners were captured when the allied forces took Ipek in Montenegro.

The Montenegrins have risen in revolt against their Austrian oppressors, the dispatches added.

AMERICAN ACE IS BROUGHT DOWN, BUT HIS FATE IS UNKNOWN

International News Service. WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY NORTHWEST OF VERDUN (daybreak), Oct. 23.—Lieut. Joseph E. Wheeler of Everett, Mass., who was credited with ten air victories, has been shot down but it is not known whether he was killed or made prisoner.

Whether he was a fighting partner of Frank Luke of Phoenix, Ariz. They had just shot down a German balloon near Cambrai, when Lieut. Wheeler had been hovering above the ground when the balloon was shot down. Luke advanced this command the same afternoon by shooting down a Fokker.

Two German planes and balloons had been brought down by Wheeler before he fell.

MUST STOP EXTRA CHARGE. International News Service. WASHINGTON, Oct. 23.—"Childs' restaurants everywhere are forbidden to continue their practice of charging five cents extra for bread and butter served with meals, by an order of the food administrator issued this afternoon."